

HineSight

Columnist
has the
Faith to
carry on
 pg 4



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EDMONTON • MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2009

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Celebrity pg 14

Are Jen
and
John
off
again?



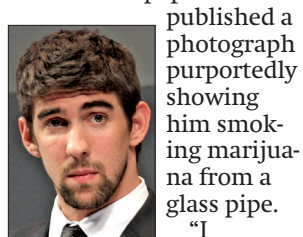
NFL

Super Bowl XLIII

- Marty York breaks down the game, pg 8
- Halftime recap with The Boss, pg 9
- Exclusive blogs at metro news.ca

Was Phelps training for half-pipe?

APOLOGY Record-breaking U.S. Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps issued an apology yesterday after a British newspaper



published a photograph purportedly showing him smoking marijuana from a glass pipe. "I engaged in behaviour which was regrettable and demonstrated bad judgment," Phelps, the winner of a record eight gold medals at the Beijing Olympics last year, said in a statement after the News of the World published the photograph.

U.S. officials said the news was disappointing but stressed that smoking marijuana out of competition was not an anti-doping matter at this point.

"Obviously, it is very disappointing and a terrible decision by Michael," U.S. Anti-Doping Agency chief executive Travis Tygart told Reuters in a telephone interview.

"To a certain extent, he let down the world."

But Tygart added: "Marijuana, right or wrong, is not prohibited out of competition. Obviously, if he showed up at an event and tested positive, we would take full action against him."

REUTERS

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NFL **Super win**



Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, right, hands the Vince Lombardi Trophy to teammate Santonio Holmes after their team defeated the Arizona Cardinals 27-23 to win Super Bowl XLIII last night in Tampa, Fla. Coverage, pgs 8, 9

Warehouse fire arson

CEO 'dumbfounded' after police rule fire was deliberate

VICTORIA HANDSIDES
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Employees of a torched manufacturing business are left with burning questions after investigators determined last week's multimillion-dollar inferno was deliberately set.

Someone set the manufacturing business, Energy Saving Systems, ablaze through the night on Jan. 26, and CEO Leon Prevost said he hasn't the first clue who's responsible.

"I have no theories and am just dumbfounded as to why someone would do this," he said. "We have security, we had our gates

locked and we thought we were doing everything right. Obviously, someone found a way to get in that we didn't think about."

Investigators have not yet pinpointed a cause of

"It's not easy, but when the big guy upstairs gives you lemons, you make lemonade."

Leon Prevost

the \$4-million blaze in the warehouse at 126 Avenue and 124 Street, or released information on any possible suspects.

"Investigators asked me if I have disgruntled employees — many have been working here for over five years, and some that have

left still come over for lunch."

Office staff are set to go back to work today. Operations will resume, as soon as a new site is chosen for the family-run business.

Prevost credits his "remarkable" staff for picking up the pieces so quickly.

He added hopes of starting over would have gone up in smoke, were it not for items pulled from the inferno by firefighters.

"It's not easy, but when the big guy upstairs gives

you lemons, you make lemonade," he said. "We owe so much to the crews and our staff."

In addition to the Energy Saving Systems blaze, Edmonton saw a handful of arsons in January.

On Jan. 10, Molotov cocktails were hurled at the home of a former Syncrude oil executive. The home, located in an upscale Bearspaw cul-de-sac, was destroyed. Damages were estimated at \$850,000.

On Jan. 26, a fire was deliberately set in the front of a home at 128 Street and 121 Avenue.

All are under investigation by the Edmonton Police Services arson unit.

Slain RCMP officers to be honoured at hockey game

JEFF CUMMINGS
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Four Mounties from Mayerthorpe gunned down by cop-hater James Roszko will be remembered in a hockey game involving the community's old-timers team inside the home of the Edmonton Oilers.

The annual charity game between the Mayerthorpe Wranglers and an RCMP squad was moved to Rexall Place after the town's arena was ravaged by a blaze last summer.

Northlands says it has agreed to host the game with the Edmonton Oilers on March 1 in an effort to get hockey fans to remember those officers "who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty."

"They all understand the significance of this memorial game to everybody involved with the tragedy," said Margaret Thibault, a spokeswoman for the Fallen Four Memorial Society.

Edmonton Oilers coach Craig MacTavish will be participating in the game and Paul Lorieau will be singing the national anthem, along with students from the Mayerthorpe Elementary School.

Five memorial candles will be lit in a pre-game ceremony to remember the fallen four officers, with the fifth candle commemorating peace officers who have been killed in the line of duty.

Roszko took his own life after a gunfight with police at his Quonset hut where the four fallen officers were on guard — constables Peter Schiemann, Anthony Gordon, Leo Johnston and Brock Myrol.

Shawn Hennessey and Dennis Cheeseman, who admitted to helping Roszko with the killing, were sentenced Friday to 15 years and 12 years in prison, respectively.

More than 50 food products containing peanuts were added to the recall list by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency over the weekend, for fear that they may contain deadly salmonella bacteria. Of those, 37 are manufactured in Canada, and sold at stores like Wal-Mart, Safeway, and Save-on-Foods. For a complete list, visit inspection.gc.ca. **METRO EDMONTON**

Local



Hungry for change

The University of Alberta will hold International Week 2009 from today until Friday, focusing on the international food crisis. Hungry for Change: Transcending Feast, Famine and Frenzy will feature lectures and workshops on what people can do to combat the crisis at home.

METRO EDMONTON



Citytv

ROGERS™

Warrant issued in cocktail bombing

SUSPECT Police have issued a warrant for a person they feel is in connection with the Molotov cocktail bombings that plagued the Mill Woods area over the summer.



Amir Ahmed Qureshi

As a result of a 10-month investigation, a warrant has been issued for 20-year-old Amir Ahmed Qureshi. Qureshi stands 5-5, weighs 154 pounds, has black hair and brown eyes, and multiple tattoos, including teardrops on his right cheek.

Pair recovering from chopper crash

GRANDE CACHE Two men who survived a helicopter crash and then being stranded in blowing snow near Grande Cache for 16 hours are expected to be given a clean bill of health.

The 33-year-old passenger was not harmed, while the pilot, a 47-year-old, is in hospital. **METRO EDMONTON**

Stock up on ice-centials

VICTORIA HANDSIDES
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Slippery streets and sidewalks made getting around a dangerous task over the weekend, and weather officials say we haven't seen the last of the icy surfaces yet.

Though temperatures are expected to stay above zero every day this week, freezing overnight temperatures will keep city streets in an icy grip, said Environment Canada meteorologist Blair Morrow.

"At least for the next week or so, the trend we've been seeing will continue," he said. "I can't see it going away any time soon."

Salt and ice scrapers were flying off the shelves at many area hardware stores, many of which ran out of stock over the weekend.

"Ice melter has been going like crazy," said Kingsway Canadian Tire store manager, Amy Shakespeare. "We're totally out of stock."

A city bylaw forces prop-



Al Stoney navigates a very icy patch of sidewalk on 102 St. and 83 Ave. in Edmonton. Meteorologists warned that city streets will remain in an icy state all week.

erty owners to chip away any accumulated ice within 24 hours. If not, owners could be slapped with a \$100 fine.

If ice has built up dangerously in front of a business, city officials encourage reports to bylaw enforcement.

Most Canadian Tire locations will be re-stocked with ice-centials today.

Sand is provided free by the city, available at over 100 community leagues in outdoor boxes.

While the city's busiest hospitals treated patients with injuries from slips

and falls and ice-related motor vehicle accidents, numbers surprisingly did not rise much.

"The Royal Alexandra and the U of A didn't have any Saturday, which was astounding," said an Alberta Health Services spokesperson.

Speed dates to heat up Valley Zoo

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VALENTINES Animal instincts sometimes go hand in hand when it comes to successful date.

That's why staff at the Edmonton Valley Zoo say it will be the No. 1 spot for singles for two days beginning Feb. 13 once again for the Valentines Day weekend. The zoo is hosting a series of speed-date nights in the event dubbed Animal Attraction, for the second time after a successful first go of it last year. And as singles meet candidates during eight-minute sessions, zoo staff will show off the animals while offering lectures on animal mating habits as "a bit of an icebreaker," said Tyler Pollock, an events coordinator at the zoo.

"This past September, I found myself at a wedding where I met a couple — they weren't exactly bride and groom and they were people who dated for about a year now after the speed dating event," said Pollock. Tickets for the event are \$40. Singles looking for a booking can call 780-457-8535, or go to eightminutedate.ca more info.

Hope Mission celebrates 80 years

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CHARITY Thanks to a charitable organization, inner-city streets have been filled with hope for 80 years.

The Hope Mission celebrates eight decades of lending a hand to less fortunate Edmontonians this year, and officials say it wouldn't be possible without keeping a holistic approach in mind.

"Sure, it all starts with handing out a sandwich, but goes as far as teaching

"We're a faith-based organization here to help pick people up."

Peter Gerber

people how to care for themselves again," said spokesman Peter Gerber.

The mission began at the dawn of the Great Depression in 1929 as a soup kitchen, serving thousands of displaced men and women.

Today, the charity provides more than 80 per

cent over the city's shelter services, employs 180 staff, and assisted by over 1,500 volunteers every year.

With two ministry vans patrolling the streets seven days a week, the mission is known for providing aid on the front lines. Other initiatives include a thrift store, camp for underprivileged youth, and Edmonton's largest skate park.

"But for the grace of God, some people fall off the path," Gerber said. "We're a faith-based organization here to help pick people up."



People line up outside the Hope Mission building on 106 Ave. and 99 St. The Hope Mission is celebrating its 80th anniversary.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs Canadian Soccer Association legend Stephen Hart joins the It's Called Football show this week at metronews.ca

Video Michael Ignatieff feels the love from a glowing New York Times profile at metronews.ca/canada



Winnipeg snowmobiler dies stranded on lake

A 51-year-old Winnipeg man who ran into trouble Saturday while snowmobiling on Lake Winnipeg died after being stranded on the frozen water for six hours while his two children left to find help. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

3

Canada/World

Windsurfing **Not summer yet**



COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

It was not quite balmy weather, but one Toronto man got an early start on summer yesterday by getting in some windsurfing on a frozen Lake Ontario. The groundhog will tell us today how quickly that summer will come.

News in brief

CRIME A woman from Bridgewater, N.S., has been handed a life sentence with no parole eligibility for 20 years for strangling her only child after her boyfriend gave her an ultimatum. Penny Boudreau, 34, pleaded guilty Friday to second-degree murder in the death of 12-year-old Karissa Boudreau.

AFGHANISTAN Canadian Sapper Sean David Greenfield was killed in Afghanistan on Saturday when his vehicle hit an explosive device on a road west of Kandahar in southern Afghanistan.



Sean Greenfield

He is the 11th soldier to be killed by a roadside bomb since December. Greenfield was stationed in Kandahar province.

CRIME Hells Angels member Paul Fontaine was found guilty yesterday in Montreal of killing a prison guard and trying to kill another guard in 1997.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Muslim issue shows its face

A judge has ordered a Toronto woman to testify without her niqab at a sexual assault trial — raising the thorny issue of whether Muslim women should be allowed to appear as witnesses wearing a veil that covers everything but the eyes.

The issue is a collision of two rights, pitting religious freedom against the right of a defendant to face an accuser in open court.

The case could be precedent setting because it doesn't appear there is any Canadian case law addressing the question of Muslim women in the courtroom.

In Canada, home to about 580,000 Muslims, the case will be closely watched, amid fears about Muslim women coming forward in criminal cases.

In October, Ontario Court Justice Norris Weisman reached his "admittedly difficult decision" to force the complainant to testify with her face bared after finding "the complainant's religious belief is not that strong ... and that it is, as she says, a matter of comfort," he wrote in his Oct. 16 ruling. The woman told the judge she does not go out in public without her veil.

finding "the complainant's religious belief is not that strong ... and that it is, as she says, a matter of comfort," he wrote in his Oct. 16 ruling. The woman told the judge she does not go out in public without her veil.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fight to overturn

• Lawyer David Butt is representing the woman and next month in Superior Court will argue that the ruling should be overturned.

Israel strikes Gaza

Israel launched a series of air strikes in the Gaza Strip yesterday, targeting a Hamas security complex and tunnels used to smuggle weapons after vowing a "disproportionate" response to cross-border fire.

The aircraft carried out half a dozen strikes after three Israelis were injured by a mortar salvo, including two soldiers and the first Israeli civilian hurt since a Jan. 18 truce ended Israel's 22-day offensive in the coastal enclave.

There were no reported casualties in the air attacks. Five of the strikes targeted tunnels along

More violence

• Israel's renewed air strikes came as its leaders took a hard line against rocket fire from Gaza ahead of a Feb. 10 national election.

Gaza's border with Egypt, used to smuggle weapons into the coastal enclave, in a zone known as the Philadelphi corridor.

A further Israeli attack was on a security headquarters in a village in central Gaza that residents said had been vacated after Israel telephoned warn-

ings to Palestinians to leave buildings that housed any weapons.

The Israeli military said that "in response to rocket and mortar fire today, the air force has attacked a number of targets in the (Gaza) Strip, including six tunnels and a Hamas position." Hamas said five tunnels had been bombed.

About a dozen rockets and mortar bombs were fired from Gaza on Sunday, the Israeli military said. A wing of al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a group belonging to the Fatah faction, claimed responsibility for some of the rockets.

REUTERS

Iran detains women, fellow activist says

IRAN Iranian police have detained three women's rights activists, the latest in dozens of such arrests over the last few years in the Islamic republic, a fellow campaigner said yesterday.

She noted one of those held was accused of spreading propaganda against the state.

They were seized in the mountains north of Tehran on Friday when collecting signatures in support of a campaign seeking changes to legislation which activists say discriminates against women. Iran rejects accusations of bias.

She suggested the latest arrests may be a message from the authorities ahead of International Women's Day on March 8.

REUTERS

South Korea **Outrage over deaths**



REUTERS/JO XONG-HAK

A protester, left, scuffles with riot police during an anti-government rally in central Seoul yesterday. Thousands mourned for protesters who died in a fire when authorities entered a building which was to be demolished and redeveloped.

News in brief

U.S. Republicans warned their party was unlikely to back U.S. President Barack Obama's economic stimulus bill without changes to cut waste and en-

sure prompt deployment of the financial package, as well as focus on the housing sector and tax relief. The House will consider the bill this week. **REUTERS**

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Faith to fight through winter

HineSight

Anne Hines



The midpoint of winter. Halfway between, "I can't believe it's snowing already" and "I can't believe it's snowing still." The stage of winter when we're so desperate and addled we conscript small furry animals to predict the weather.

I'm one of those who find winter particularly difficult. I suffer from SAD — Seasonal Argumentative Disorder. February makes me testy.

For instance, this morning I was at the gym, on the treadmill, singing my tunes. I love my tunes. To me, all of humankind's

technological advances were simply leading to that one glorious triumphant moment when someone created the iPod Shuffle.

My partner, Liz, thinks I should alter my mode of singing on the treadmill to either "on key" or, "so every person in the gym doesn't have to listen to you." But really, what could be more delightful than exercising to the sound of me belting out Faith Hill? The problem comes with my accompanying dance moves.

At the point I get the treadmill cranked over six kilometres per hour, it's hard to tell if I'm dancing or having a seizure. My fellow gym members

are tired of having their workouts interrupted by anxious gym staff trying to clap me with a defibrillator.

Anyway, this morning, I'm singing and dancing on the treadmill, care-free as a groundhog without a TV contract. A fellow gym patron comes over and sort of stands beside me. I begin to think, "Perhaps she wants something. Perhaps I should ask."

I remove my earphones, feeling very sorry for the people around who were no doubt looking forward to hearing me hit the high note ... almost. I say, "Yes?" She says, "Um, I'm sorry to bother you, but I was wondering if you'd mind not singing quite so loudly."

I think, "Can you believe how rude?"

Now, normally I'm prepared to go to any lengths to make someone else happy.

Unless it's a lot of trouble. But at that moment, I hit the mid-winter-insanity wall. I was in the grips of Seasonal Argumentative Disorder.

Me: Oh dear. You don't like Faith Hill?

FGP: I do ... it's just ...

Me: Most people like Faith Hill.

FGP: I do ... but I like to be quiet and ...

Me: I also have John Denver. Would you prefer John Denver?

FGP: No, no ...

Me: You prefer Faith Hill.

FGP: Well, yes ...

Me: No problem.

I clapped my earphones back on. She's going to love it when I get to Dancing Queen.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.



Worth Mentioning

Switching jobs in recession may prove sound strategy

With layoffs happening all around her, automotive worker Ellen Whittington is doing what many worried Americans are doing: Trying to find a safer, better job before she loses the one she has.

Strange as it may seem, changing careers or trying to upgrade jobs amid a recession and millions of layoffs may be just the thing to do — to jump before you get pushed.

"Some organizations use downturns to go out and capture the top talent in the industry from competitors that are hurting," said Peter Stark, business consultant and author of the forthcoming book *Engaged: How*

Leaders Build Organizations Where Employees Love to Come to Work.

"They go after people who would be laid off and considered tops in their industry, but also people who are still working," he said.

Whittington, 32, has updated her resume on online recruiting site Monster.com and is discretely but doggedly networking to find a way into an industry that has a more stable future than the devastated U.S. auto sector.

"It's pretty much an open secret. Everyone is looking," said Whittington, who works for a German automotive company in Cincinnati.

REUTERS

Views

Fares continue to rise despite service flatline

InTransit

Brendan Van Alstine



I didn't really see this coming — but as of this month, an ETS monthly pass officially ceased to be a good investment for me. That's because, although poorly publicized, as of February, the cost of the monthly pass goes up to \$74.25.

In the winter months, I enjoy the luxury of taking the bus to go grocery shopping, or hopping on the bus to visit friends or have a night out.

A bus pass was a great investment! Not only did it give me the freedom to take transit wherever I needed to, but also, knowing that I had pre-paid for

"Sadly, while ETS has continually increased the price of individual fares, transit tickets, and now ... the monthly pass, its service levels have not kept up with the cost."

the service made me want to take transit more and to get out more and enjoy the city.

There's something about not paying for each individual trip that just makes transit more appealing, and that the monthly pass remained one of ETS's few remaining reasonably priced fare products added to its appeal.

Sadly, while ETS has continually increased the price of individual fares, transit tickets, and now are finally increasing the cost of the monthly pass, its service levels have not kept up with the cost.

As a matter of fact, the

current level of service dates back almost 13 years, and there have been few major service improvements since 1996 — back when the cost of a single bus trip was half what it is today.

Knowing this, it's understandable to see so many people eagerly giving up transit in favour of the almighty car. Who wants to pay transit prices comparable to cities like Vancouver and Toronto for service that doesn't even come close? Who wants to pay more and more every year for a service that seemingly never improves in any significant way?

It's frustrating to see the city treat transit as though it were a business, as opposed to the essential service that it is. We spend billions every year building and repairing roads, and don't expect motorists to pay fares to cover the cost. Yet one bus full of people causes significantly less wear and tear on a roadway than if all those people drove their 30 or 40 individual cars on the same road.

It seems that the city really needs to get its priorities straight, and I would encourage everyone to contact the mayor and city council about this. In the meantime though, I know I'll be taking the bus less now.

Brendan Van Alstine is a registered social worker and founding member of the Transit Riders' Union of Edmonton. Brendan relies exclusively on transit, his bicycle and walking as means of transportation.

Quote of the Day

"I'm 23 years old, and despite the successes I have had in the pool, I acted in a youthful and inappropriate way."

— Eight-time Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps apologizing after a British newspaper published a photograph purportedly showing him smoking marijuana.

REUTERS

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: edmontonletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Clotheslines can save you money

By hanging your laundry on a clothesline or line instead of throwing them in the dryer, you'll save about 950 kilowatt hours of electricity per year. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

5

Going Green

World Wetlands Day

As the rest of Canada waits to see if the groundhog spots his shadow, the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) is proudly marking World Wetlands Day today. Canada is home to nearly 25 per cent of wetlands in the world and the NCC, as this country's leading conservation organization, has been working since 1962 to protect these unique and rich habitats. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Fuel sources are a burning issue

EarthTones

Sophia Dore & Andrew Laursen



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What to burn, what to burn? Coal, that one-time wonder rock has lost our love, being named environmental enemy No. 1 by Economist magazine in 2002.

As older coal-burning plants around the country age, they will need to be replaced or upgraded to handle more capacity and to reduce their environmental impacts. We know coal power is dirty power, but the cost and opposition to nuclear power have delayed new projects, and even renewable power projects like wind farms routinely face opposition. While we dislike coal, we seem much more comfortable with the idea of burning something, rather than we are with alternative

technologies. We will have a hard time letting go of coal until we change our perception of alternate technologies or find something better to burn.

Some coal-fired plants are now experimenting with burning wood chips. Results of pilot projects seem promising; energy production has not suffered and wood pulp produces less sulfur and NOx emissions. The idea is a political winner. The long suffering forestry industry in Canada could find a new life as an energy provider. The projects have been touted as carbon neutral (which is a farce, but that's a discussion for another day). However, burning new plant biomass instead of coal is worth exploring.

But if you like the idea of using wood, you should love this. Garbage! Many of you are appalled. But think about it. We have this vast source of energy that we keep on generating. We have the infrastructure to collect and transport it. We are already investing the energy to do so. And then we bury it!

Meanwhile, we spend lots of money and energy



Ideas like pulping paper, pelletizing it and burning it as fuel may offer another source of energy in the future.

to unbury coal and oil. For many, burning garbage is distasteful. It conjures an image of black smoke pouring out of stacks, but modern incinerators with high-temperature combustion are much more benign. It's arguably more

distasteful to spend energy burying it when it could be used.

And if you turned up your nose at the incinerator, here's one you'll really dislike. But give it some thought. We spend a fortune de-inking recycled pa-

per, generating a lot of wastewater that must be treated (requiring still more energy). We still end up with pulp that is marginal for recycling. With few exceptions, recycling content never exceeds 30 per cent. Think about that.

You are doing your part, separating and recycling paper. You try to buy responsibly, yet the best you are likely to get is 30 per cent recycled content because the rest cannot be de-inked. We might be better off scrapping paper recycling.

Instead, we might pulp that paper, pelletize it and burn it as fuel. We'd cut down on water pollution from de-inking and virgin pulp that needs far less bleaching. Like using wood pellets, this would be a boon to forestry. And if you liked the idea of using wood instead of coal, should it matter to you that you've written on that wood first?

We need to set aside biases and personal taboos and consider if it makes sense to use these other fuel sources. And if you are now thoroughly disgusted with the idea of burning anything, maybe we've opened you up to the idea of wind farms and nuclear plants. Either way, it's progress.

Sophia Dore is an environmental scientist with Conestoga-Rovers & Associates. Andrew Laursen is an assistant professor at Ryerson University.

News in brief

ATMOSPHERE The United States will launch a satellite later this month to measure carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and to determine what happens to the climate-changing pollutant, NASA said late last week. Burning fossil fuels and deforestation has raised carbon dioxide concentrations to levels that are causing glob-

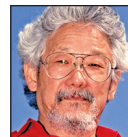
al alarm about a changing climate. Measurement of the gas outside Europe and the United States is spotty, NASA researchers said. After vehicles and factories release carbon dioxide into the air, the world's oceans and land absorb much of it. But scientists cannot figure out where the remaining carbon dioxide

goes, a detail critical to forecasting the speed and reach of pollution's effect on climate.

CLIMATE Denmark's prime minister called on rich and poor countries alike to commit to big cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, ahead of key year-end talks on a new climate treaty he will

host in Copenhagen. "It is essential to engage heads of state and government stronger in the whole process to ensure a positive result in Copenhagen," Anders Fogh Rasmussen told the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, late last week.

REUTERS



SMALL STEPS by David Suzuki

Turning your life green

Most of the laundry soaps you'll find in grocery stores are filled with synthetic dyes, overwhelming perfumes and petroleum-based chemicals that can build up in our bodies and water systems.

Try switching to an earth-friendly brand of laundry soap.

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Human error at Google sends the wrong message

For nearly an hour on Saturday, Google users got an error message when they did searches on many sites, saying "This site may harm your computer." The problem was human error with a feature that flags potentially malicious sites, Google said. **REUTERS**

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA



Honda offers settlement

Honda Canada is seeking court approval to settle three class-action lawsuits with owners of about 900,000 vehicles over allegations of inaccurate odometers that overstate mileage. Honda said it wants to extend mileage on leases and warranties by five per cent and pay for repairs that fall under that extra distance. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Business in brief

DEFICIT China swung into deficit in 2008 after combined central and local government spending of 1.66 trillion yuan (\$243 billion US) in the year's final weeks to combat the economic slowdown. Its revenue totalled 325 billion yuan in that month.

STRIKES British Prime Minister Gordon Brown condemned nationwide wildcat strikes over the use of foreign workers at a time of soaring unemployment, as union warned more workers may walk off their jobs this week.

TALKS Debt-laden miner Rio Tinto is in talks to raise up to \$9 billion US from Chinalco, the state-owned Chinese aluminium company, which already holds an 11 per cent stake in the company. **REUTERS**

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All talk, no action in Davos

Rising protectionism threatens to deepen the economic crisis and a new trade deal is needed more than ever to keep commerce flowing — on that much trade ministers and political leaders are agreed.

But as so often in the politics of international trade, actions — or lack of them — belie words.

Trade ministers meeting at the World Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland, on Saturday vowed to prioritize the World Trade Organization's (WTO) long-running Doha round.

Despite repeated promises made by world leaders not to put up barriers to trade, they did not set a target date for the WTO's 153 G20 and emerging nation members to meet to push for a Doha deal.



Pascal Lamy, right, director general of the World Trade Organization gestures next to Doris Leuthard, Swiss economy minister, during the World Economic Forum on Saturday.

And the warnings and promises on protectionism fly in the face of a series of increased duties, reimposed subsidies and non-tariff barriers erected in the past few months.

Current director-general Pascal Lamy has said that a Doha deal would be an important move against protectionism. **REUTERS**

Poor earnings open door to market rally

MARKETS Corporate Canada will likely deliver a wave of dismal earnings reports in coming weeks, but market pros say that could open the door to a stock rally as glum investors pounce on any morsel of optimism.

It will be no surprise if companies post poor results as the global economy worsens, and it's that frame of mind that will likely keep the Toronto Stock Exchange from revisiting multi-year lows hit in November.

"People are surprised if there is good news and clearly the market is not discounting any good news," said Irwin Michael, portfolio manager at ABC Funds. **REUTERS**

Doha talks

- The Doha talks were launched in 2001 to open new trade opportunities and give developing countries a bigger stake in the global trading system, but differences between countries have prevented a deal.



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Lakers' Bynum injures knee

Los Angeles Lakers centre Andrew Bynum left in the first quarter of Saturday's win over the Memphis Grizzlies with what the team is calling a sprained right knee. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

7

Sports

SPORTS@METRONews.ca

Preds prey on Oilers

NHL RESULT**Predators 2 Oilers 1**

Nashville's Ryan Jones and Oilers goalie Dwayne Roloson watch a loose puck yesterday. The Predators beat Edmonton 2-1.

THE SKINNY: The Oilers came in with a 3-0 record in afternoon games this season, but they didn't show up on time for this noon matinee against the Predators, falling behind 2-0 as goals by J.P. Dumont and Martin Erat, along with 32 saves by Pekka Rinne, were the difference.

THE QUOTE: "We really played well," said Rinne, who has seen action in 16 of Nashville's last 18 games. "I saw the puck really well and I felt good all the way through."

THE BIG PLAY: Erat got the winner 8:35 into the third period when he took a cross-ice pass from David Legwand, cut to the net and slipped a backhand through the pads of Dwayne Roloson.

HEMSKY HOT: Ales

Hemsky's goal to cut Nashville's lead to 2-1 in the third period gives him eight points, including six goals, in five games since returning from a concussion.

MILESTONE FOR STAIOS: Steve Staios played his 500th game as a member of the Oilers. Staios, signed as a free agent in July of 2001, is the 19th player to play 500 or more regular season games with Edmonton.

TOOTOO DERAILED: Jordin Tootoo, who put Hemsky on the shelf for 10 games in

Edmonton's 5-2 win Dec. 28 with a hit along the boards, didn't dress. Tootoo was injured in a fight with Todd Bertuzzi in Calgary on Friday.

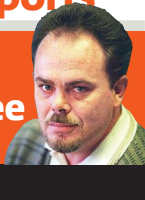
DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS: When these teams met in late December, Nashville was sitting in seventh place and the Oilers were 13th. The Predators have been in a free fall with a 5-10 record since then.

THE NEXT GAME: The Oilers host Chicago tomorrow at 7 p.m. **ROBIN BROWNLEE**
/FOR METRO EDMONTON

Bandwagon rides like a roller-coaster

CapitalSports

Robin Brownlee



Say what you want about the Edmonton Oilers, there's seldom a dull moment for people riding the roller-coaster that doubles as the team's bandwagon.

Take the last three games, for example. On Tuesday, the Oilers suffered the worst defeat on home ice in franchise history, a 10-2 drubbing at the hands of the Buffalo Sabres.

In the wake of much obligatory consternation fol-

lowing that embarrassment, they bounced back with a 3-1 win over the Minnesota Wild on Friday with one of their most complete efforts this season.

Back on the ice for a matinee at Rexall Place against Nashville yesterday, the Oilers lost 2-1 to a Predators team that's been lousy on the road all season, 10-15-2, and that had won just four of its previous 14 games.

A bad time to come off the rails again.

"We have to take the responsibility to take care of our own business," said coach Craig MacTavish. "We haven't done that for a few years here."

"When you get a game like that where you can drive a nail in, you get the game. You can always exhib-

it the urgency and the intensity. The one thing you want to show in a game like that, as we saw in the Minnesota game, is the intensity from everybody."

Despite being humiliated by the Sabres, the Oilers faced Nashville having won six of their previous eight games. As for intensity against the Predators, there was precious little.

Instead of building on an 8-4 record in January their first time out of the blocks this month, the Oilers too often looked flat and disinterested — they weren't as close on the ice as they were on the scoreboard.

In a decade covering the Edmonton sports scene, Robin Brownlee has been the news-breaker and insightful voice for sports fans in Oil Country.

Sports in brief

GOLF PGA Tour veteran Kenny Perry shrugged off the disappointment of a bogey on the 72nd hole to win the Phoenix Open in a sudden-death playoff with fellow American Charley Hoffman yesterday. The win was Perry's 13th Tour title at the TPC Scottsdale.

TENNIS Rafael Nadal ground Roger Federer's dreams of a record-equalling 14th grand slam singles crown into dust yesterday, triumphing in a pulsating five-set Australian Open final with an epic 7-5 3-6 7-6 3-6 6-2 victory under floodlights.

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Bruce Smith, an all-pro defensive end with the Buffalo Bills, and longtime Pittsburgh Steelers defensive back Rod Woodson are among the six new members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Derrick Thomas, Randall McDaniel, Bob Hayes and Buffalo Bills owner Ralph Wilson Jr. are the other new members. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Super Bowl XLIII

Steelers squeak past Cards

Pittsburgh defence fails late, but Roethlisberger rallies the troops

NFL RESULT

Pittsburgh 27 Arizona 23



The Pittsburgh Steelers' rich tradition always began with physical, intimidating defence.

Last night, not so much. En route to capturing their record sixth NFL title, the Steelers' defence broke down conspicuously in what irrefutably will rank as the most memorable, most unlikely and most spectacular fourth quarter in the Super Bowl's 43-year history.

Ultimately, it was the Steelers' offence that needed to win this championship, as quarterback **Ben Roethlisberger** engineered a 78-yard, eight-play touchdown drive for a 27-23 come-from-behind triumph over the heartbroken Arizona Cardinals.

The game-winning TD was a doozy — a six-yard bullet, with only 35 seconds remaining, from Roethlisberger to receiver **Santonio Holmes**, who neatly kept both his feet in the end zone before being

belted to the ground out of bounds. Holmes also was chosen the game's most-valuable player.

"I told the guys (in the huddle) that it was now or never," Roethlisberger said. "I said, 'All the film study didn't matter unless you do it now,' and we did. I was really proud of (his offensive teammates) the way we went down and scored."

Realistically, however, it should never have come down to that.

The Steelers were ahead 20-7 after three quarters, primarily because its No. 1-ranked defence was its usual brilliant self. Pittsburgh linebacker **James Harrison**, chosen the NFL's premier defensive player during the regular season, even intercepted a pass on

his team's goal line on the final play of the first half and romped 100 yards for the longest touchdown in Super Bowl history.

That gave the Steelers a 17-7 advantage.

But in the fourth quarter, veteran Arizona quarterback **Kurt Warner** started to dissect the Pittsburgh defence like a surgeon, eventually finding **Larry Fitzgerald** for a 64-yard



Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Santonio Holmes catches the game-winning touchdown pass during the dying seconds of the fourth quarter of Super Bowl XLIII in Tampa, Fla., last night.

touchdown pass. With 2:37 left, the Cardinals — 60-to-1 championship long shots when the NFL season began — suddenly took their first lead.

"What I thought at the time (of Fitzgerald's long TD) was that there was still too much time left," Cards coach **Ken Whisenhunt** said. "The Steelers were able to make the plays. That's what good teams do."

Steelers coach **Mike Tomlin** concurred.

"Steelers football is always 60 minutes long,"

Tomlin said. "It's never going to be pretty. Throw style points out the window when it comes to us. But we fight to the end, and we win."

"Our team did a marvelous job," club owner **Dan Rooney** said.

"We had the toughest schedule in the league and we prevailed ... I'd like to thank President (Barack) Obama and the Steeler Nation for supporting us."

Obama said before the game that he was rooting for the Steelers even though he had a soft spot

for Warner because of his age. Warner is 37. He also is at the end of his contract and, after completing 31-of-43 passes for 377 yards and three touchdowns last night, is contemplating retirement.

"I'll see," he said. "I have some time to think about it. Right now, though, I'm just thinking about how close we came to winning this. And, obviously, I'm disappointed."

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Super Bowl

By the numbers

SCORING DRIVES

Pittsburgh 3-0

• First Quarter 9:50: After a Steelers touchdown is called back Jeff Reed kicks 18-yard field goal for Steelers after 71-yard drive.

Pittsburgh 10-0

• Second Quarter 14:09: Gary Russell caps 69-yard Steelers drive with one-yard rushing touchdown.

Pittsburgh 10-7

• Second Quarter 8:43: Arizona's Kurt Warner throws one-yard touchdown pass to Ben Patrick after 83-yard drive.

Pittsburgh 17-7

• Second Quarter 0:18: Steelers' James Harrison returns interception 100 yards for touchdown.

Pittsburgh 20-7

• Third Quarter 2:16: Reed kicks another field goal for the Steelers after 79-yard drive.

Pittsburgh 20-14

• Fourth Quarter 7:41: Warner connects with Larry Fitzgerald for a one-yard touchdown after 87-yard drive.

Pittsburgh 20-16

• Fourth Quarter 3:04: A holding penalty on Justin Hartwig in end zone results in the Steelers giving up a safety.

Arizona 23-20

• Fourth Quarter 2:47: Fitzgerald scores on another reception from Warner, this time for 64 yards.

Pittsburgh 27-23

• Fourth Quarter 0:42: Santonio Holmes catches six-yard touchdown pass from Ben Roethlisberger to put Steelers up for good.

YorkReport

Marty York

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Bills set to face Titans in Hall of Fame Game

The Buffalo Bills and Tennessee Titans will open up the NFL's celebration of the AFL's 50th anniversary when the teams play in the Hall of Fame Game in Canton, Ohio, on Aug. 9, the league announced Saturday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

sports **9****Super Bowl XLIII**

The Boss still knows how to rock

Springsteen and the E Street Band put on a Super Bowl halftime show to remember

NATALIA MANZOCCO
natalia.manzocco@metronews.ca

Rock legend Bruce Springsteen's halftime performance at yesterday's Super Bowl was heavily hyped by sports nuts and rock fans alike.

And the Boss delivered, with a blistering set of mostly old favourites — but for many, the fun was drained from his performance before the stage lights even came on over Springsteen's E Street Band.

In the days leading up to the game, online oddsmakers were hard at work handicapping potential playlists from the New Jersey native's 30-year career of hit singles. Rolling Stone magazine, acting on insider info, hinted on its website that Springsteen's picks were none of the ones favoured, and the plays were axed.

For those without money riding on the

"Put down those chicken fingers and turn your TV all the way up."

Bruce Springsteen

12-minute performance, it was a treat. After bellowing at viewers at home to "Put down those chicken fingers and turn your TV all the way up," Springsteen broke out hits Born To Run and Glory Days, the latter of which was met by massive cheers and dutifully amended to mention a friend who "was a big football player back in high school."

Springsteen also found room for a new song — the title track from his latest album, Working On A Dream, which seemed as obligatory a half-time move as the showy gospel choir Springsteen brought in to accompany it.



Legendary rockers Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band perform at the halftime show during Super Bowl XLIII last night at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fla.

But the highlight of the show was a pick none of the oddsmakers saw coming: A rollicking opening performance of Tenth Avenue Freeze-Out, which

saw 59-year-old Springsteen dashing across the stage, jamming his microphone into the audience, and knee-sliding straight into a cameraman's lens.

Also a disappointment to the online betting crowd: Springsteen's wife and backing guitarist Patti Scialfa, despite two-to-one odds, did not suffer a Janet Jack-

son-style "wardrobe malfunction," nor did the Boss reprise the ending of his Dancing in the Dark music video by pulling Courteney Cox out of the crowd.

Sights and sounds of the Super Bowl



Singer Jennifer Hudson sang the American national anthem before Super Bowl XLIII. It was Hudson's first public appearance since the murders of her mother, brother and seven-year-old nephew in October.



From left to right: Arizona fans wear Pat Tillman jerseys. Tillman is a former Cardinals player who died serving his country in Afghanistan; Pittsburgh Steelers fan David Neft shows his team spirit; Arizona fans also went all out to show support for their team.



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Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Free online university?

Taking a cue from the open teaching movement, Israeli entrepreneur Shai Reshef plans to launch the first worldwide, tuition-free online university this fall. "The University of the People" will start off small with a maximum 300 students studying either business administration or computer science.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Green burials in the future?

Curtain Call

NOELLE MUNARETTO
for Metro Canada

Imagine a traditional North American burial and you're likely to think of everything from a thick, lacquered casket to a heavy tombstone. In reality, however, this form of interment is a relatively new concept considering our ancestors once buried the dead in an incredibly natural fashion.

Following this idea of re-

turning a body to the earth in its most pure form, natural or green burials have become increasingly popular in both Canada and The United States after enjoying great success in The United Kingdom.

Royal Oak Burial Park in Victoria B.C. is the province's largest municipal cemetery and the first in Canada to have opened a natural burial site. Stephen Olson, the executive director of Royal Oak explains that after being approached by local citizens who desired natural burials, in

2006 the cemetery made a commitment to the community to open a site in the next two years.

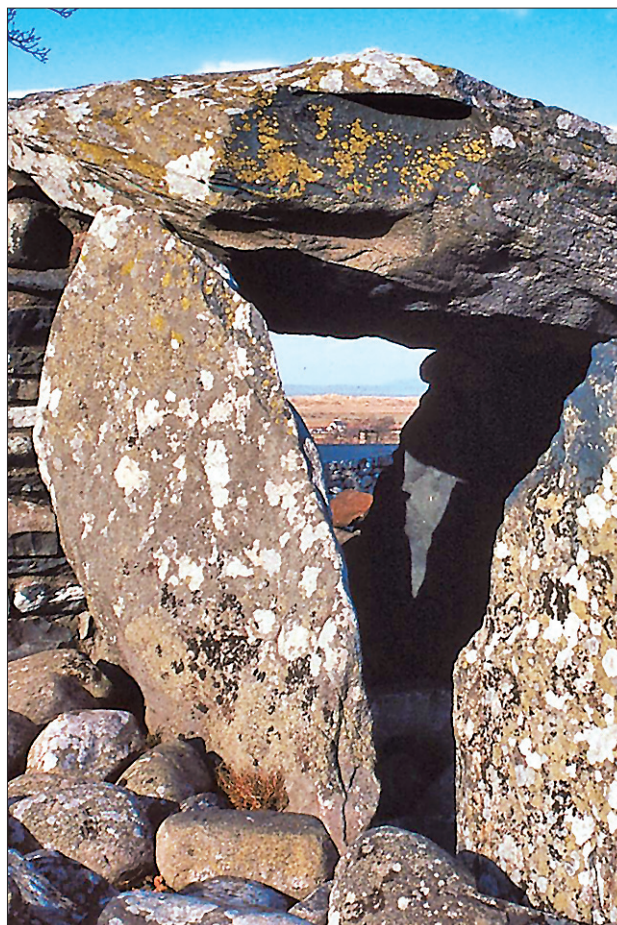
Olson says the feedback he received to the decision was astounding.

"As soon as we were definitely going ahead with this, the amount of interest and amount of calls I got from local people was incredible. I've never seen anything like that in this business," he says. "For people, the environment and the ecology and their awareness of them has increased exponentially over the past few years."

The natural interment zone, known as the Woodlands, officially opened in October 2008 and holds space for 255 graves sites on a third of an acre. Though specific green burial methods may vary depending on the region, the common goal is to let the body decompose naturally.

At Woodlands, bodies are not treated with harsh embalming chemicals and are wrapped in natural fabric. The bodies are then placed in a biodegradable container that could be made out of materials such as wicker or sustainable wood. After the body is buried without a grave liner, there are no markers or other items allowed directly on the grave. Instead inscriptions will be made on five large memorial boulders that are located around the Woodlands periphery.

"What we're trying to do here is essentially match the ecosystem with where the burial plots are located," says Olson, who adds that plant species native to Vic-



Modern burial practices are a relatively new concept considering our ancestors once buried their dead in an incredibly natural fashion.

toria will be used to help reforest the Woodlands site.

Mike Salisbury, the executive director of the Natural Burial Co-operative in Canada, envisions that by following a green burial model, the cemeteries of the future will actually resemble lush forests and family-friendly parks.

Since Salisbury says more people in Ontario are interested in pursuing this type of burial, the cooperative is currently working to obtain land in the province for a

green site.

"What this is for people is a sense of value. They look at the conventional process and options and they don't see value in them," says Salisbury. "The whole circle of life thing is really what people get. There's something that feels good about allowing the circle to complete, and reaching a logical end."



For the entire Curtain Call exclusive series see stop by Metronews.ca/work

Bidding farewell to a feature

It's been an interesting ride for the Workology section this last month. I hope our readers enjoyed reading our special Curtain Call series as much as we enjoyed writing and producing it.

A common theme that was revisited in many of the articles was that while work can be plentiful when you deal in the realm of death, it is definitely not the way its portrayed on the television. These jobs take time and patience and in some case a heck of a lot of schooling. Some series highlights:

• HOMICIDE: LIFE ON THE STREET:

The feature on the life of a homicide detective.

• ASHES TO ASHES:

The story of the life of a crematorium operator.

• DEAD, BUT HOW?:

An in-depth look at the amount of training and experience it takes to become a forensic pathologist.

The entire Curtain Call series is available at metronews.ca/work so check it out if you missed one.

We here on the Metro Workology team hope that we've informed all our readers about some of the interesting, unique and lucrative career opportunities that you may have never fathomed. Please enjoy the feature piece on this page; a way of giving Curtain Call its own burial.

-DOUGLAS DUNLOP (EDITOR)

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Cybermentor inspires girls to pursue science and engineering

An Alberta-wide initiative to encourage girls to pursue careers in science and engineering has gone high-tech with the launch of "Cybermentor," an online social community in which girls ages 11 to 18 are matched with female scientists and engineers. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Wrangling rats, flies and bugs

OddJobs

Diane Peters



When he was a child, Jim Lovisek ordered an armadillo from the back of a comic book.

Hey, it was the '60s.

His bedroom was something of a zoo with various snakes, an injured hawk, and numerous other animals. His parents got used to it.

In university, he studied zoology at the University of Calgary, briefly did some research in the Amazon jungle on caimans (a type of alligator) and came back to his hometown, Toronto, and worked part time with the reptile exhibits at the Royal Ontario Museum.

He got to know people in

the film industry at that time and started doing animal handling for movies and commercials. Eventually, he quit his day job and got into film work full time.

Lovisek, now 60, has handled rats for the movie Hairspray, snakes for Cold Creek Manor and all sorts of creatures for Telus through his company, Toronto Nature Centre.

He used to keep his own animals, but now he just buys, borrows or rents what he needs for a shoot, tapping into his network of breeders and people who rent exotic animals.

Lovisek's job is to make an animal do a very specific task. Once, he had to make a ladybug walk a straight line, walk up the side of a candle and then back down again. (The digital effects people put the flame in later.)

"It's always challenging to figure out how to get an animal to do something that doesn't hurt the animal."

Lovisek made a path of



It was an armadillo that began Jim Lovisek's career as an animal wrangler.

foam core for the ladybug to walk on and placed cardboard covered with a slippery spray beside the path — the bug avoided that and stayed on course. Ladybugs like to walk up,

so it went up the candle no problem. At the top, he put a daub of Vick's VapoRub, which animals hate, so it came back down.

He sometimes uses food or water to motivate ani-

mals. For insects, he fashions tiny harnesses with fine line. A quick blast of carbon dioxide will put a fly or bug to sleep for a few minutes so he can tie it on. Acquiring animals, figur-

The Lowdown

Job title: Animal wrangler

Salary: N/A

Education: A lot of experience with animals

Best part of the job: "Trying to get an animal to do a specific thing on set and to have it work, and work well."

Worst part of the job: "Waiting. You can be on set for eight or ten hours before you get your moment. Waiting is hard too for certain animals."

ing out a scene and training birds or dogs takes time, so Lovisek needs plenty of notice from filmmakers.

To stay on top of his work, Lovisek reads recent animal studies, plus he never stops observing animal behaviour.

"What you learn is there's a lot to learn. You discover you are scratching the surface."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

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Madonna gets custody of kids
A London judge has given Madonna temporary permission to move her two sons with ex Guy Ritchie to New York City. The U.K. Evening Standard reports the custody agreement will be made permanent within the next 14 day. [USMAGAZINE.COM](#)

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA



Damon delay

Plans for Matt Damon's next movie have been suspended because of the economic downturn. The actor was scheduled to appear in *Torso*, a film about Eliot Ness.

[FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK](#)

weekend box office

- 1 Taken:** \$24.6 million US
- 2 Paul Blart: Mall Cop:** \$14 million
- 3 The Uninvited:** \$10.5 million
- 4 Hotel for Dogs:** \$8.7 million
- 5 Gran Torino:** \$8.6 million
- 6 Slumdog Millionaire:** \$7.7 million
- 7 Underworld: Rise of the Lycans:** \$7.2 million
- 8 New In Town:** \$6.8 million
- 9 My Bloody Valentine: 3D:** \$4.3 million
- 10 Inkheart:** \$3.7 million REUTERS

Making sense of money

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada



“There’s nothing more confusing than money. It’s so complicated that even the experts don’t understand it.”

Alison Griffiths

Whether you’ve got skeletons in your financial closet or just need a little guidance, Alison Griffiths wants you to let it all out on-air.

Griffiths, a financial journalist and host of W Network’s *Mixed Out*, will host *Dollars & Sense*, a live call-in show aimed at making money less intimidating by discussing it in a casual, live setting.

“This isn’t the business channel — this is me at your dining room table,” Griffiths said.

Griffiths promises the call-in format will lead to highly specific and practical advice.

“It’s an objective forum

where people can exchange ideas. There’ll be a lot of depth to it and a lot of very specific information and tips,” Griffiths said.

The premiere episode hopes to hit back at the financial crisis by featuring Philip Brown of Credit Canada doing a primer on how to get out of debt, while other weeks will have similar experts taking calls on everything from taxes and savings to

RRSPs and investments.

Callers will have an opportunity to ask tough questions and share their own misadventures in a constructive setting meant to get at the root of money problems.

“The problem with money is many times we don’t learn from our mistakes because we don’t know what the lesson was,” Griffiths said.

Understanding what you did wrong financially can be difficult because, as the recent market meltdown has shown, the inner workings of money can be far more labyrinthine than most people imagine.

“There’s nothing more confusing than money. It’s so complicated that even the experts don’t understand it,” Griffiths said.

Worse yet, dealing with money can be an emotional experience because money is often tied to people’s family life, goals, and dreams.


“If you think about it, money is the only thing that accompanies us from cradle to grave. There isn’t an aspect of life that isn’t associated with money. It’s wrapped up in emotion,” Griffiths said.

Griffiths, 56, is no stranger to financial concerns — she once lost two years of income taking care of her ill daughter — so she hopes viewers will identify with her as someone who wants to help.

“I love when I can solve someone’s problem — it’s a great feeling to help people get across the street financially,” she said.



Alison Griffiths hosts *Dollars & Sense*, starting tonight on VIVA and the W Network.



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Boyle wins guild award

Danny Boyle, whose rags-to-riches romance *Slumdog Millionaire* has won over U.S. audiences, was named best director by the Directors Guild of America Saturday, cementing the movie's position as the Oscar front-runner.

The win put a positive end to a week of controversy for the film that tells of a young Indian boy raised in the slums of Mumbai who goes on to compete for a fortune on a TV talk show and, in the process, also tries to win the girl of his dreams.

Slumdog has met with praise in the United States, but in India it has sparked some protests over its depiction of people who live in Indian slums.

The film's makers also came under fire in a British newspaper report claiming they had not properly cared for or paid the children who play the slum dwellers, but Boyle and producer Christian Colson said that report was inaccurate.



Director Danny Boyle

“If I can get here, you can.”

Danny Boyle

On Saturday, controversy seemed far from British director Boyle's mind when he accepted the Directors Guild honor. He talked of achieving dreams and challenged the other film and television makers in the room to press on with work in which they believe.

“If I can get here, you can,” he said as he accepted the trophy. “Dream kind and dream hard.”

The DGA honor is an indicator of which movie is the front-runner for the best picture Oscar, the world's top film award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

REUTERS

Celebrity Buzz

Restraining order against Spears' ex

DISPUTE Britney Spears' father has obtained new restraining orders against her former manager, her ex-boyfriend and a lawyer, according to court documents filed Friday, people.com reports.

Jamie Spears and lawyer Andrew Wallet, who oversee the singer's affairs as co-conservators, allege the three men "are now working in concert to disrupt the conservatorship with utter disregard for Ms. Spears' health and well being," the papers say.

Spears' father says her cellphone records show "numerous telephone conversations" and text messages with her ex-manager Sam Lutfi and former boyfriend, paparazzo Adnan Ghalib.

"(Britney) innocently informs (Ghalib) of her desti-

nations and that he then arranges for paparazzi to meet and film her to his financial benefit," Jamie Spears says.

"(He) is harmful to Ms. Spears and to her recovery."

Her father also alleges that on Dec. 27 and 28, 2008, Lutfi tried to contact Britney through her hairdresser with the message that Lutfi was not responsible for creating the conservatorship.

He allegedly sent a text message to the hairdresser saying, "I've done every-

thing I can to free her from this. Very close to getting her free now."

The restraining orders forbid Lutfi, 34, and Ghalib, 36, from contacting Spears or coming within 250 yards of her, her property or family members, according to the L.A. Superior Court papers.

Jamie Spears also got a restraining order against lawyer Jon Eardley, who was involved in challenging the conservatorship proceedings.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Many comment on Jessica's new curves

WEIGHT People.com is reporting the outpouring of support for Jessica Simpson's curves continues.

"She's a gorgeous girl," Carmen Electra told People magazine Friday night at the 6th annual Leather & Laces Super Bowl Party in Tampa about her "good friend" Simpson. "A lot of women would die to look as good as she

looks."

In fact, Electra believes much of the controversy surrounding Simpson, 28, and her curvier body can be chalked up to the outfit she was wearing the day she performed in Pembroke Pines, Fla.

"There's going to be moments where people don't necessarily like your look or what you're wearing, and that's OK," she says. "Next week, she'll rock some outfit that will blow everyone away."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



McCartney still sad over Linda

RELATIONSHIP Paul McCartney still wakes up every morning feeling a "tinge of sadness" at the death of his first wife Linda, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Beatles legend is currently dating American socialite Nancy Shevell following a messy public divorce with second wife Heather Mills in 2008.

But McCartney still misses Linda, who died in 1998 after losing her battle with cancer.

He says, "I don't wake up every day with a hole in my heart, but there's a tinge of sadness."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Did Aniston and Mayer split again?

RELATIONSHIP Either John Mayer has split from Jennifer Aniston or they have a very open relationship, intouchweekly.com reports.

The website says the musician was spotted on an intimate date with a beautiful blond woman at Marix Tex Mex Restaurant in Santa Monica last week. "They were obviously on a date," a source tells In Touch.

"He came in with her another time, too, and I've seen them out together."

While the two keep their romance under wraps, the source says John couldn't

hold back his feelings for her when saying goodbye. "He gave her a long kiss before they left," adds the insider. "John has been here six times in the last two weeks but never with Jen."

Mayer, 31, and Aniston, 39, split last August after dating for several months, but found it difficult to go their separate ways.

The two rekindled their romance in October and in early January, the couple was even seen vacationing together in Cabo San Lucas in Mexico.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Zellweger's diary wanted in insurance lawsuit

LEGAL TMZ.com is reporting that an insurance company is trying to subpoena Renee Zellweger's diary.

The gossip website reports that back when the Bridget Jones' Diary star was filming Cinderella Man back in 2005, production was delayed

after co-star Russell Crowe stopped the filming dead in its tracks because he dislocated his shoulder.

Because there was a seven-week delay, the production took

longer than expected, and Zellweger had other projects she couldn't do. So the insurance company for the film reportedly negotiated a \$3 million US payout to Zellweger to account for her missed opportunities.

TMZ.com reports that it now seems the insurance company has filed a suit over the whole mess and wants Zellweger to account for her time, presumably to show whether she really suffered a financial loss. No word on whether the judge will grant the request.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Voight discusses exercise regimen

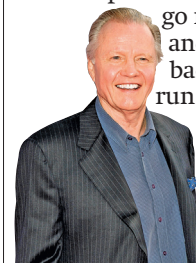
HEALTH Movie star Jon Voight keeps himself in shape by running backwards, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The actor father of Angelina Jolie hits the canyons and streets near his Los Angeles home twice a week for a stress-free jog and he thinks that reverse running helps clear his head.

He says, "As you get older, you have to do something to keep yourself fit. You have to watch what you eat and I have a little regimen I do that I don't tell anybody about."

"A couple times a week I go running and I run backwards. I run up hills."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Model dislikes objectifying women

BEAUTY Elle Macpherson hates being looked at, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The supermodel-and-actress — nicknamed The Body because of her stunning figure — doesn't feel it is healthy to objectify women because of their looks.

She said: "As strange as it might sound, I feel uncomfortable when people look at me. I really don't like it. That's one of the reasons that I've almost never enjoyed catwalks."

"My view is that putting a woman on a pedestal for everyone's enjoyment is not a positive thing at all."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



You could WIN a Soho® Lychee Love prize pack for VALENTINE'S DAY



To celebrate the most romantic day of the year, SOHO® is giving away six (6) Valentine's Day prize packages.

SOHO® is a stylish liquor created with the unique and exotic taste of lychee. The sensual fruit from Asia is considered to be a symbol of romance and love because of the red, heart-shaped appearance.



Prize Pack Includes:

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- Collection of three (3) romantic movies
- Soho love candle
- And more...

SOHO® Lychee Love

- 1½ oz. SOHO® lychee
- ½ oz. Malibu® rum
- 6 oz. mango or pineapple juice
- 1 dash grenadine syrup

Blend all ingredients except grenadine with ice. Top with grenadine and garnish with a lychee fruit.

Enter online at www.metronews.ca by Monday February 9, 2009 for your chance to win.

No purchase necessary. Must be of legal drinking age to participate. See full contest rules for details. Retail value of prize \$500. Please enjoy our products responsibly.

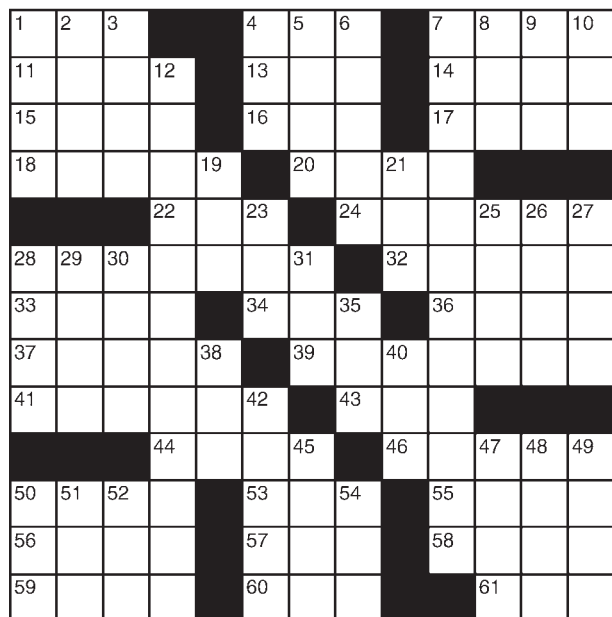


**Today**Cloudy, flurries
1°C / -10°C**Tuesday**Partly cloudy
3°C / -6°C**Wednesday**Partly cloudy
3°C / -5°C**Michele McDougall, Weather Specialist & Host – Breakfast Television**

"My favourite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes."

WEEKDAYS AT 6 AM

Take Five



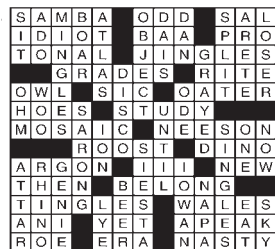
Crossword across

- 1 Pouch
4 Paintings
7 Jazzy phrase
11 Enthusiastic, and then some
13 Legume
14 Nastase of tennis fame
15 Frost
16 Bill
17 Ball of yarn
18 Office mail receiver
20 Milne bear
22 Tear
24 Vitamin C source
28 Delicate
32 Fracture
33 Entice
34 Tibetan critter
36 Moonstruck state
37 Reserved
39 Dangled a carrot
41 Bicycle parts
43 Combat
44 Ready for the picking
46 Miniature
50 Cohort of Ringo
53 German pronoun
55 Sandwich cookie
56 Stereo hookup
57 Letter after pi
58 Skaters' venue
59 Press clothes
60 Very long time
61 Payable

Crossword down

- 1 Indian wrap
2 Not "fer"
3 Barber's tool
4 Likely
5 Harvest
6 Forbidden
7 Controversial comedy legend
8 Under the weather
9 "A curse upon thee!"
10 A handful
12 Controversial comedy legend
19 Noon, in a sense
21 Sphere
23 Thickness
25 Tidy
26 Stare
27 Supplemented, with "out"
28 Dud
29 Mysterious character
30 Saharan
31 Consume
35 London's — Gardens
38 Actor Wallach
40 Page in an atlas
42 Steeple
45 Reverberate
47 Crossword diagram, e.g.
48 Options list
49 Oxen's joiner
50 — Beta Kappa
51 Atmosphere
52 E.T.'s vessel?
54 Sweetie

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



8	4	5	9	2	3	1	6	7
9	1	2	5	6	7	8	3	4
6	3	7	4	8	1	9	2	5
4	5	9	8	1	6	3	7	2
1	8	3	2	7	4	6	5	9
7	2	6	3	5	9	4	1	8
5	9	1	7	3	8	2	4	6
3	7	8	6	4	2	5	9	1
2	6	4	1	9	5	7	8	3

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 minGenius
13-17 min.....Scholar

17-21 minSmart
21-25 minNot bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Spicy chicken fajitas

INGREDIENTS:

2 large skinless chicken breast fillets
1 1/2 tbsp (20 mL) Cajun spice mixture
Tabasco to taste
8 soft flour tortillas
1 papaya
1/4 cup (50 mL) olive oil
Juice of 1 lime
4 cups (1 L) delicate mixed salad leaves

METHOD:

1. Cut chicken breasts lengthwise into eight long strips. Sprinkle spice mixture over plate, add chicken strips and toss to coat. Sprinkle lightly with Tabasco, then set aside 5 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, warm tortillas according to package instructions. Cut papaya in half lengthwise and scoop out seeds, then

cut each half into eight slices and peel.
3. Heat 2 tbsp (25 mL) oil in large frying pan. Add coated chicken strips and stir-fry 6 minutes over medium heat. Remove from heat, sprinkle with half of lime juice and toss, scraping residue from pan.
4. Divide salad leaves among warm tortillas. Sprinkle over remaining oil and lime juice, then top with chicken strips and slices of papaya. Season to taste, then roll up loosely and serve at once, two per person.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Weariness breeds dismay, so take a different approach. Vexing delays in the discharge of your duties will evaporate.



TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21

An exceptional person will make the most of a scary risk. New information can make you feel as if you're out of your depth.



GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21

Go to public places if you're looking for action. Flattery will work on those who seem to be immune to it.



CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22

Surprising news will come through outside sources. You'll get more attention by offering a lifeline to someone.



LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23

When an offer is retracted, a friendship is damaged. Don't explode when a careless outsider makes a blunder.



VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22

Go with your gut reaction, if you want to settle a debate. Be very cautious when temptation arises. You'll wonder if someone has your best interests in mind.



LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23

A call may alarm you, but nothing can be done right away. Getting back to normal might seem to be impossible. A doleful friend will have a bad case of the blues.



SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22

Your perspective improves after a chat. You'll need a comforting friend, if you're too cranky. Somebody's absence can cause the loss of an opportunity.



SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

You'll be enthusiastic when you see amazing things. Your boldness will generate a winning scheme. Your personal style brings you good luck.



CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20

Complicated relationships confuse you and cause delays. A madman is less about talk and more about action. Touching memories are stirred up by a remark.



AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18

Your determination and honesty are the best way to get ahead. Self-discipline, tact and calmness are needed. A sentimental guy benefits from a tough friendship.



PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20

Be consistent, if you want to improve your professional appeal. It's important to stay on top of breaking news. Restrain your temper with people who are selfish.



WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

1. Sign up and pay a church-singing group (1)
2. Every gap in security measures (1)
3. Goggle of girls on a river embankment (2)
4. Say no to a cereal not for rabbits (1)
5. NYC NBA team's magical feats (1)
6. "All set?" actor Prinze, Jr.? (2)
7. Foul-smelling reasoning (2)

ANSWERS: 1. HIRE CHOR 2. EACH BREACH 3. LEVEE BEY 4. NIX TRIX 5. KNICKS TRICKS 6. READY FREDDIE 7. STINKING THINKING

This day in history

FEB. 2, 1653: New Amsterdam (later renamed The City of New York) is incorporated.
FEB. 2, 1922: Ulysses by James Joyce is published.
FEB. 2, 1933: Adolf Hitler dissolves the German Parliament.
FEB. 2, 1940: Frank Sinatra debuts with the Tommy Dorsey orchestra.
FEB. 2, 1971: Idi Amin replaces President Milton Obote as leader of Uganda.
FEB. 2, 1972: The British embassy in Dublin is destroyed in protest over Bloody Sunday.

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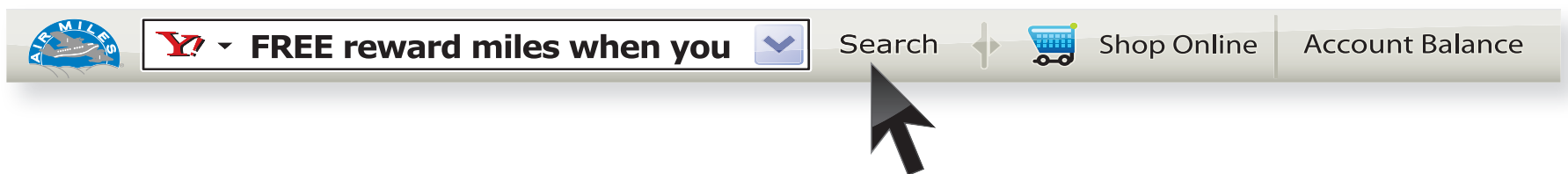
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